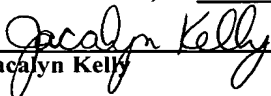


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Docket No. DN2002113D01
Terry Frank Allen, et al) Confirmation No.
For: METHOD FOR SPLICING A) Art Unit:
CONVEYOR BELT) Examiner:
Serial No.:) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
Filed:) deposited with the United States Postal Service as
Express Mail in an envelope label No. EL014691005US
addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application,
Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria,
VA 22313-1450, on January 13, 2004.


Jacalyn Kelly H-13-04

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. SECTIONS 1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

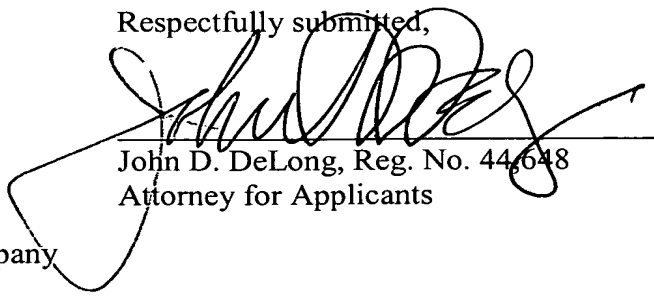
Dear Sir:

The material listed on accompanying PTO Form-1449 is cited in compliance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98. As to any materials supplied, Applicants do not admit that it is "prior art" under 35 U.S.C. Sections 102 and 103 and specifically reserve the right to antedate such material, as by a showing under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 or other method. The pertinence of each cited reference is briefly discussed below.

The reference listed on Form PTO-1449 are of record in co-pending Application Serial No. 10/225,950, filed August 22, 2002.

Applicants submit that none of the above cited references derogates from the patentability of the invention described and claimed in the subject patent application.

Respectfully submitted,


John D. DeLong, Reg. No. 44,648
Attorney for Applicants

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
1144 East Market Street, D/823
Akron, Ohio 44316-0001
Telephone: (330)796-8757
JDD/jsk
Attachments

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY DOCKET NO. DN2002113D01	SERIAL NO. Confirmation No.
	APPLICANT (S) Terry Frank Allen, et al	
	FILING DATE	GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date if Appropriate	
	3,487,871	01/06/70	Kanamori	156	266	09/07/66	
	4,153,772	05/08/79	Schwesig, et al.	526	308	05/20/77	
	4,548,663	10/22/85	Worcester	156	159	03/08/84	
	4,681,646	07/21/87	Pinto, et al.	156	157	06/11/85	
	4,898,223	02/06/90	Botzman, et al.	152	547	01/30/89	
	5,340,867	08/23/94	Yagawa, et al.	524	80	11/04/92	
	5,377,818	01/03/95	White	198	844.2	12/06/93	
	5,552,460	09/03/96	Schmidt, et al.	523	522	03/30/95	
	5,562,796	10/08/96	Ertel	156	498	05/24/94	
	5,609,242	03/11/97	Hutchins, et al.	198	847	07/12/95	
	6,086,806	07/11/00	Weatherall, et al.	264	152	04/05/96	
	6,180,703 B1	01/30/01	Onoi, et al.	524	265		
	6,372,071 B1	04/16/02	Garro, et al.	156	124	05/27/94	
	6,554,934 B1	04/29/03	Steven, et al.	156	137		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation YES NO	
	WO 00/53952	09/14/00	WIPO				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner Initial		
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED:	

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.